



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8**

1595 Wynkoop Street  
DENVER, CO 80202-1129  
Phone 800-227-8917  
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

**JUL 30 2014**

Ref: 8ENF-UFO

CERTIFIED MAIL 7008-3230-0003-0727-5607  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Morgan Anderson  
Regulatory Affairs Analyst  
QEP Energy Company  
1050 17th Street, Suite 500  
Denver, CO 80265

Re: Underground Injection Control (UIC)  
Notice of Violation:  
Loss of Mechanical Integrity  
NBE 12 SWD-10-9-23 Well  
EPA Well ID# UT21078-07216  
API # 43-047-38875  
Natural Buttes Oil Field  
Uintah County, UT

Dear Ms. Anderson:

On July 17, 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) learned that the QEP Energy Company injection well referenced above lost mechanical integrity on July 17, 2014. Pursuant to the above-referenced UIC Permit and Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 144.51(q)(1) (40 C.F.R. § 144.51(q)(1)), you must establish and maintain mechanical integrity. A loss of mechanical integrity is a violation of this requirement.

Pursuant to the above-referenced UIC Permit and the regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 144.51(q)(2), you must immediately cease injection into this well. Before injection may resume, you must demonstrate that the well has mechanical integrity by passing a mechanical integrity test (MIT). You must also receive written authorization from the EPA.

The EPA acknowledges that QEP has submitted documentation describing the action you intend to take regarding the well, including a time frame in which you anticipate the work to be completed. It is expected that you will return this well to compliance within ninety (90) days of the loss of mechanical integrity.

If you choose to plug and abandon this well, a plugging and abandonment plan must be submitted to the EPA for approval prior to the plugging operation.

Failure to comply with the UIC regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Parts 144 through 148 constitutes one or more violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h. Such non-compliance may subject you to formal enforcement by the EPA, as codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, you may contact Sarah Roberts at (303) 312-7056. Please direct all correspondence to the attention of Sarah Roberts at Mail Code 8ENF-UFO.

Sincerely,



Mark Chalfant, Acting Director  
UIC/FIFRA/OPA Technical Enforcement Programs

cc: Gordon Howell, Chairman  
Uintah & Ouray Business Committee  
P.O. Box 190  
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

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